



COUNCIL AGENDA: 10/7/2025
FILE: 25-1066
ITEM: 3.3

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Toni J. Taber, MMC
City Clerk

SUBJECT: BOARD OF FAIR CAMPAIGN AND
POLITICAL PRACTICES
INTERVIEWS

DATE: September 25, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

1. Interview applicants for appointments to the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.
2. Appoint up to two (2) applicants to a term ending March 1, 2027.
3. If any vacancies remain, direct the City Clerk to continue recruitment efforts and bring forward additional applicants for consideration.

Please Note: Approval of this item requires 8 or more affirmative votes (2/3).

OUTCOME

Appointments will allow the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices to be fully seated.

BACKGROUND

San Jose Municipal Code (SJMC) Section 2.08.1630 establishes the requirements for services on the five-member Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (Board) as follows:

- (a) Each member of the commission must be a qualified elector of the city and have some demonstrated familiarity and experience with campaign laws. The commission's membership should be representative of the community.
- (b) No members will be employed by the city or have any direct and substantial financial interest in any business, work or official action taken by the city.
- (c) While serving on the commission, no member will hold any elected public office.
- (d) No member will participate as a candidate in any election to public office for a period of one (1) year both before and after tenure on the commission.
- (e) While serving on the commission, no member will publicly endorse any candidate for city office nor engage in any political or campaign activity on behalf of any candidate for city office.

- (f) While serving on the commission, no member will be employed by or have any contractual relationship with any candidate for city office.

There are two (2) vacancies on the Board. The Office of the City Clerk conducted an open recruitment. Per Council Policy 0-4, Consolidated Policy Governing Boards and Commissions, applicants who were not appointed to a Board or Commission will have their applications maintained on file in the City Clerk's Office for a period of one year from the date of application. Eight applications were received. Two applicants did not meet the requirement of being a registered elector of the City, as is required by San Jose Municipal Code Section 2.08.1630(A) and were therefore not included in the Conflicts of Interest Memorandum. Four applicants met the requirements to serve on the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices: Eddy Lu, Sangeetha Vijendiran, John Shuler, and Rolanda Pierre-Dixon. In the Conflicts of Interest Memorandum authored by the Office of the City Attorney, it was determined that it is unclear if applicants Ravi Pathak and Manjusha Gangadharan meet the requirements to serve on the Board because their applications did not include an affirmative response to the question related to experience with elections or campaign laws. Based on this determination, Ravi and Manjusha were advised that upon submitting a complete application, they would be eligible to be interviewed the next time that the City Council conducts interviews for the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

Due to the number of vacancies, all eligible applicants were invited to the October 7, 2025 interview.

ANALYSIS

Four applicants have been invited to be interviewed by the City Council on October 7, 2025. A successful applicant must receive a two-thirds vote of the City Council (eight (8) or more votes) to be appointed to the Board. (SJMC § 2.08.1610.). After the interviews, the Council may make up to two (2) appointments to the Board to fill two (2) vacancies for terms ending March 1, 2027. Those to be interviewed are:

- Eddy Lu
- Sangeetha Vijendiran
- John Shuler
- Rolanda Pierre-Dixon

The applications of the four (4) applicants invited to be interviewed and memorandum from the Office of the City Attorney regarding their conflicts of interest reviews are also included.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The Office of the City Clerk conducted an open recruitment for the vacancies ending September 15, 2025.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

October 7, 2025

Subject: Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices Interview


Page 3

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the Office of the City Attorney.

CEQA

Not a Project, File No. PP17-010, City Administrative Activities, resulting in no changes to the physical environment.



TONI J. TABER, MMC
City Clerk

For questions, please contact Toni Taber, City Clerk, at (408) 535-1260.